

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently amended) Ash collector for smokers, comprising a bar-shaped container with an opening on one end that is closed by a removable closure body which consists, in full or predominantly, of a material resistant to glowing ash of cigarettes or cigars,

wherein the thermal capacity of the closure body is selected to ensure that embers of a cigarette or a cigar, which is pressed against the closure body, will be extinguished within a few seconds.

2. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 1, wherein the closure body is made from metal.

3. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 2, wherein the closure body is made from a metal with high thermal conductivity.

4. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 1, wherein the closure body has a recess on its end facing the interior of the container.

5. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 4, wherein the recess of the closure body tapers from its end toward the interior of the closure body.

6. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 5, wherein the recess in the closure body has a concave shape.

7. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 5, wherein the recess in the closure body has a conical shape.

8. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 1, wherein the closure body is a plug.

9. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 8, wherein the outer surface of the closure body is provided with a groove adapted to receive a sealing ring.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently amended) ~~The ash collector as defined in claim 10;~~ Ash collector for smokers, comprising a bar-shaped container with an opening on one end that is closed by a removable closure body which consists, in full or predominantly, of a material resistant to glowing ash of cigarettes or cigars,

wherein the thermal capacity of the closure body is selected to ensure that embers of a cigarette or a cigar, which is pressed against the closure body, will be extinguished within a few seconds; and when a cigar or a cigarette is stubbed out in a recess of the closure body, the temperature of its outer surface will not rise above 50° Celsius.

12. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 1, wherein a clip is attached to the closure body.

13. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 1, wherein the container is made from metal.

14. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 13, wherein the container consists of a metal suited for deep-drawing.

15. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 13 wherein the container is made from aluminum or an aluminum alloy.

16. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 1, wherein the container is a molded plastic part.

17. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 1, wherein the container has an outer diameter of 10mm to 15mm.

18. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 1, wherein the container has a length of 10cm to 15cm.

19. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 1, wherein in addition to a chamber intended to collect ashes it further comprises a second chamber that is accessible from the end of the container opposite the closure body.

20. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 1, comprising an integrated flashlight.

21. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 19, wherein the second chamber accommodates a flashlight or parts thereof.

22. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 21, wherein the end of the container opposite the closure body is provided with a sleeve which is detachably connected with the container and which accommodates a bulb.

23. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 22, wherein the sleeve further accommodates a reflector and a glass pane closing off the sleeve.

24. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 1, further comprising an integrated cigarette lighter.

25. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 24, wherein the cigarette lighter is provided in a second chamber, said second chamber is provided in the container and is accessible from the end of the container opposite the closure body.

26. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 23, wherein the cigarette lighter is protected by a removable cap.

27. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 26, wherein the cap is pivotably mounted on the container.

28. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 4, wherein the closure body is made from metal.

29. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 3, wherein the metal is selected from the group consisting of aluminum, copper and brass.

30. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 4, wherein the thermal capacity of the closure body is selected to ensure that embers of a cigarette or a cigar which is pressed into the recess will be extinguished within a few seconds.

31. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 3, wherein the thermal capacity of the closure body is selected to ensure that when a cigar or a cigarette is stubbed out in a recess of the closure body, the temperature of its outer surface will not rise above 50° Celsius.

32. (Previously Presented) The ash collector as defined in claim 17 wherein the container has an outer diameter of about 12mm.